(a) whether there are possibilities of several kind of diseases due to drinking of contaminated or fluoride mixed water;

(b) if so, the names of the diseases likely to be caused due to this, the details thereof;

(c) the plan formulated to provide non-contaminated pure and potable water to common people in each village; and

(d) whether pure and potable water is available to people in each village; the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) As per the information received from Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, excess intake of Fluoride through drinking water/food products/industrial pollutants over a long period, can cause major health diseases like dental fluorosis, skeletal fluorosis and non-skeletal fluorosis.

(c) and (d) As per the information received from Department Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development, assistance is provided to the States in their endeavour to provide potable water to rural habitations, under the Centrally Sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). Also that, as on 24/07/2009, out of 6.03 lakh problem habitations, 4.63 lakh rural habitations have been covered with safe drinking water in the country and in remaining habitations the projects have been sanctioned.

Water Harvesting Programme

†3026. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to make law for the implementation of water harvesting programmes in urban and rural areas keeping in view of the falling level of under ground water day by day;

(b) if so, the time by when it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) the sources through which funds are likely to be raised for this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) Central Government has circulated to the States/UTs the Model Bill to facilitate regulation and control of ground water development, which also includes provision for rain water harvesting. So far, 18 States and 4 UTs have made rain water harvesting mandatory under building bye-laws.

(c) Ministry of Water Resources has approved schemes for promotion of rain water harvesting and ground water recharge, artificial recharge of ground water through dugwells and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies. Activities relating to water conservation and water harvesting are also funded under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS).

Gyspa Hydro electric project

3027. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gyspa Hydro-electric project on Chenab basin in Lahaul and Spiti of Himachal Pradesh has been declared a project of National Importance by Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it was decided that Central Water Commission and Government of Himachal Pradesh would jointly prepare DPRs for Gyspa Project and State Government would provide manpower and CWC would provide funds;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether despite many request from Government of Himachal Pradesh, required fund of Rs. 35 crore have not been released by CWC so far; and

(e) if so, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) The project has been included as a National Project.

(b) and (c) In a meeting between officials of the Central and State Governments, a decision was taken that Central Water Commission (CWC) and Government of Himachal Pradesh would work out the details of investigation and preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Gyspa hydroelectric storage project and the funding would however be made by CWC.

(d) and (e) CWC made a suggestion to the State Government to the above effect further indicating that joint working would be cost effective and within the funds sanctioned to CWC for investigation and preparation of DPR. Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board (HPSEB) has however conveyed its view to engage some reputed international consultants/firms to prepare the DPR of the project. HPSEB has further indicated that the total estimated amount (Rs. 32.50 crore) for preparation of DPR would not be required in single instalment but would be phased out and submitted to CWC. However, the requisite source for such funding of preparation DPR is not available with CWC.

Consumable sea water

†3028. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.